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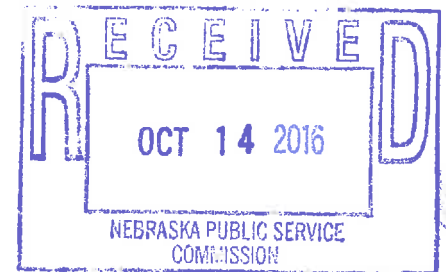
BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	Application No. NG-0078.3
OF BLACK HILLS GAS DISTRIBUTION,)	
LLC D/B/A BLACK HILLS ENERGY FOR)	PETITION OF FORMAL
AN ORDER AUTHORIZING IT TO)	INTERVENTION
INCREASE THE SAFETY AND INTEGRITY)	(Public Advocate)
CHARGES AND TO DECREASE THE)	
PIPELINE REPLACEMENTS CHARGES IN)	
ITS NEBRASKA GAS TARIFF)	

Pursuant to Neb. Admin. Code Title 291, Chpt. 1, §015.01, the Nebraska Public Advocate hereby petitions the Nebraska Public Service Commission to allow him to formally intervene in the above-captioned matter and to become a party hereto for all purposes as regards the application by Black Hills Gas Distribution, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy, seeking an order authorizing it to increase the System Safety and Integrity Rider Charges and to decrease the Pipeline Replacement Charges in its Nebraska Gas Tariff. In support of his petition to formally intervene, the Nebraska Public Advocate states as follows:

1. Correspondence or communications regarding this petition, including service of all notices and orders of the Nebraska Public Service Commission should be addressed to:

William F. Austin
Colin A. Mues
Nebraska Public Advocate
1248 'O' Street, Ste. 600
Lincoln, NE 68508
Telephone: (402) 475-1075
E-Mail: waustin@baylorevnen.com
cmues@baylorevnen.com



2. The interest of intervener is predicated upon his statutory duty as Public Advocate to represent the interests of Nebraska citizens and all classes of jurisdictional utility ratepayers,

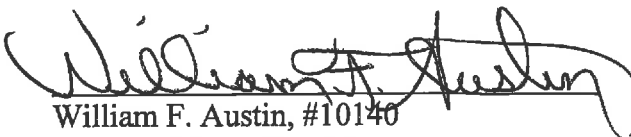
other than high volume ratepayers, in matters involving jurisdictional utilities and to investigate the legality and reasonableness of rates, charges, and practices of jurisdictional utilities. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 66-1831 authorizes the Public Advocate to petition for relief, request, initiate and intervene in any proceeding before the Commission concerning such utilities. The grounds upon which the intervention is made include, but are not limited to, the nature of the application filed by Black Hills Gas Distribution, LLC, d/b/a/ Black Hills Energy as falling within the statutory responsibilities of the Public Advocate and the need for the Public Advocate to participate fully in these proceedings. This statutory duty cannot be performed adequately by any other party to this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, the Nebraska Public Advocate hereby respectfully requests the Commission, for the reasons described above, to grant his petition to formally intervene and hold a hearing on the Application.

DATED this 14th day of October, 2016.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE

By: Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Gruit & Witt, LLP
Wells Fargo Center
1248 O Street, Suite 600
Lincoln NE 68508
402-475-1075

By: 
William F. Austin, #10140
Colin A. Mues, #24050

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Petition of Formal Intervention was served electronically on this 14~~th~~ day of October, 2016, upon the following:

Jeff Pursley
Nebraska Public Service Commission
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jeff.pursley@nebraska.gov

Scott Coburn
Nebraska Public Service Commission
Director-Natural Gas Department
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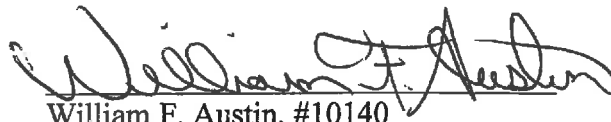
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William F. Austin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

William F. Austin, #10140

Colin A. Mues, #24050